Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a uniform network address, for a user accessing a computer on a network, independent of the computer the user is accessing, the method comprising:

(a) obtaining, by an interface mechanism executing on a first computer having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to a network, a plurality of virtual host names, each of the plurality of virtual host names comprising a host name uniquely identifying a user session from a plurality of user sessions hosted on the first computer users;

(b) assigning, by the interface mechanism from the plurality of virtual host names, a first virtual host name to a first user session of a first user accessing the network via the a first computer, the first computer having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to the network;

(c) assigning, by the interface mechanism from the plurality of virtual host names, a second virtual host name, different from the first virtual host name, to a second user session of a second user accessing the network via the first computer;

(d) accessing, by the first user session, the network using the first virtual host name of the first user with a first internet protocol address of assigned to the first user for network communications of the first user, the first internet protocol address communicated via the first computer; and

(e) accessing, by the second user session, the network using the second virtual host name of the second user with a second internet protocol address assigned to the second user for network communications of the second user, the second internet protocol address communicated via the first computer;

(f) assigning, by the interface mechanism from the plurality of virtual host names, the first virtual host name to a third user session of the first user accessing the network via a second computer; and

(g) accessing, by the third user session, the network using the first virtual host name with a third internet protocol address of the first user, the third internet protocol address communicated via the second computer.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises obtaining a plurality of internet protocol addresses for assigning unique internet protocol addresses to each of the first user session and the second user session.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) further comprises obtaining at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses from a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol server.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) further comprises reserving at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses for at least one of the first user session and the second user session.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) further comprises associating the first internet protocol address with the first virtual host name.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (e) further comprises associating the second internet protocol address with the second virtual host name.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises registering, with a name resolution service, at least one of the plurality of virtual host names to at least one of the first user session and the second user session.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the name resolution service comprises one of a Domain Name Service and a Windows Internet Naming Service.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the virtual host name identifies ~~one of a session of the user and~~ a program used by the user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises assigning the first virtual host name to the first user session accessing a second computer and associating the first virtual host name with an internet protocol address of the second computer associated with the first user session.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) further comprises assigning the second virtual host name to the second user session accessing a second computer and associating the second virtual host name with an internet protocol address of the second computer ~~associated with the second user~~.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises assigning, while the first user accesses the first computer, a third virtual host name to the first user session accessing a second computer and associating the third virtual host name with an internet protocol address of the second computer ~~associated with the first user~~.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) further comprises assigning, while the second user accesses the first computer, a fourth virtual host name to the second user session accessing a second computer and associating the fourth virtual host name with an internet protocol address of the second computer ~~associated with the second user~~.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises naming at least one of the plurality of virtual host names with a portion of the characters representing the user's identity on the network.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises naming at least one of the plurality of virtual host names with a suffix identifying the session of the user when the user is concurrently accessing multiple computers on the network.

16. (Currently amended) A system for providing a uniform network address, for a user accessing a computer on a network, independent of the computer the user is accessing, the system comprising:

a server on a network, the server providing a plurality of virtual host names, each of the plurality of virtual host names comprising a host name uniquely identifying a user session from a plurality of user sessions hosted on a first computer~~users~~;

~~a~~ the first computer having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to a network;

an interface mechanism executing on the first computer to:

obtain a ~~having a first user accessing the network via the first computer and having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to the network, the first computer obtaining a first virtual host name from the~~ plurality of virtual host names, ~~and~~

assign ~~having a second user accessing the network via the first computer, the first computer obtaining a second virtual host name~~, from the plurality of virtual host names, a first virtual host name to a first user session of a first user accessing the network via the first computer, and ~~different from the first virtual host name; and a network interface of the first computer:~~

assign the first virtual host name to a third user session of the first user accessing the network via a second computer;

the first user session accessing the network using the first virtual host name ~~of the first user~~ with a first internet protocol address of ~~assigned to~~ the first user ~~for network communications of the first user~~, the first internet protocol address communicated via the first computer~~, and~~;

the second user session accessing the network using the second virtual host name ~~of the second user~~ with a second internet protocol address ~~assigned to the second user to use for network communications~~ of the second user, the second internet protocol address communicated via the first computer; and

the third user session accessing the network using the first virtual host name with a third internet protocol address of the first user, the third internet protocol address communicated via the second computer.

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17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the server obtains a plurality of internet protocol addresses for assigning a unique internet protocol address to each of the first user and the second user.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the server assigns, from the plurality of internet protocol addresses, a first internet protocol address for the first user, and a second internet protocol address, different from the first internet protocol address, for the second user.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the server obtains at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses from a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol server.

20. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the server reserves at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses for at least one of the first user and the second user.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the network interface associates the at least one reserved internet protocol address with at least one of the first virtual host name and the second virtual host name.

22. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the system further comprises a name resolution service to register at least one of the plurality of virtual host names to at least one of the first user and the second user.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the name resolution service further comprises one of a Domain Name Service and a Windows Internet Naming Service.

24-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the name of at least one of the plurality of virtual host names comprises a portion of the characters representing the user's identity on the network.

30. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the name of the least one of the plurality of virtual host names comprises a suffix identifying the session of the user when the user is concurrently accessing multiple computers on the network.